



São Paulo - Brazil - May - 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> - 2015

# Report

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP  
ADVANCES IN CLEANER PRODUCTION

“CLEANER PRODUCTION TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE TRANSITION”

## Pathways to Cleaner Production in the Americas: Educational initiatives towards a Sustainable Transition

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### Abstract

The Pathways to Cleaner Production in the Americas project is a multinational effort aimed at facilitating the transition to sustainable industrial development in the region. The project incorporates multidisciplinary education in business, engineering, and environment as a collective response to the need for awareness of sustainability, technical competencies and innovative skills in industry across the Americas. Overall, this alliance helps generate a modern workforce to implement cleaner production practices, while also directly benefiting micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) participating in the activities. Faculty members collaborate with industry professionals in their respective countries to lead their students in conducting energy, process and material audits, developing strategies for improving financial and environmental performance, and helping companies to implement these strategies. In addition, the universities host workshops for industry participants to learn about best practices developed through the project. In this report, we describe the project and the results obtained thus far, including faculty capacity building, student training and work with MSMEs in seven countries from Latin America and the Caribbean. We discuss the challenges, successes and lessons learned achieving the goals of the project.

*Keywords: Cleaner Production, Multidisciplinary education, Higher education, Sustainable Industrial Development*

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